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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of)

Yamamoto, *et al.*)

Serial No.: 09/075,375)

Filed: May 7, 1998)

For: PLANT VDE GENES AND
METHODS RELATED THERETO)

Examiner: O. Zaghmout

Art Unit: 1649

RESPONSE UNDER
37 CFR § 1.111

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

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Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 21, 1999, Applicants submit the following Amendments and Remarks in an effort to put the above application into condition for allowance.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the remaining claims as follows:

Please cancel Claims 1 and 2.

3. (Reiterated) A DNA sequence encoding a plant VDE protein joined to a heterologous nucleic acid sequence, wherein said VDE protein has a molecular weight of approximately 43 kilodaltons, and wherein said VDE protein is recognized by a